What is claimed is:

1. A computer program for a controlling apparatus, executing the procedures of:

monitoring a frequency of communications from said controlling apparatus to the outside; and

detecting computer virus infection at the controlling apparatus by means of comparing the monitored frequency of communications with a preset threshold value.

2. A computer program of claim 1, wherein a procedure of monitoring includes a procedure of monitoring a frequency of communications from said controlling apparatus to a plurality of external devices.

3. A computer program of claim 1, wherein said procedure of monitoring includes a procedure of monitoring a frequency of communications to a specific destination port.

4. A computer program of claim 1 further executing the procedure of causing an image forming apparatus controlled by said controlling apparatus to print out a warning content when computer virus infection is detected.

5. A computer program of claim 1, wherein said procedure of monitoring includes a procedure of monitoring a number of packets transmitted from said controlling apparatus in a unit time period.

6. A computer program of claim 1, wherein said procedure

of monitoring includes a procedure of monitoring a number of packets that are associated with a specific destination port number and transmitted from said controlling apparatus in a unit time period.

5   7. A computer program of claim 1, wherein said procedure of monitoring includes a procedure of monitoring a frequency of connection request packets transmitted from said controlling apparatus.

8. A computer program of claim 1, wherein said procedure
10   of monitoring includes a procedure of monitoring a frequency of connection request packets that are associated with a specific destination port number and transmitted from said controlling apparatus.

9. A computer program of claim 1, wherein said controlling
15   apparatus is a controller for controlling an image forming apparatus.

10. A controlling apparatus comprising:

a monitor for monitoring a frequency of communications from said controlling apparatus to the outside; and

20   a detector for detecting computer virus infection at said controlling apparatus by means of comparing the monitored frequency of communications with a preset threshold value.

11. A controlling apparatus of claim 10, wherein said monitor monitors a frequency of communications from said

controlling apparatus to a plurality of external devices.

12. A controlling apparatus of claim 10, wherein said monitor monitors a frequency of communications to a specified destination port.

5   13. A controlling apparatus of claim 10, wherein said monitor monitors a number of packets transmitted from said controlling apparatus in a unit time period.

14. A controlling apparatus of claim 10, wherein said monitor monitors a number of packets associated with a specific

10   destination port number and transmitted from said controlling apparatus in a unit time period.

15. A controlling apparatus of claim 10, wherein said monitor monitors a frequency of connection request packets transmitted from said controlling apparatus.

15   16. A controlling apparatus of claim 10, wherein said monitor monitors a frequency of connection request packets that are associated with a specific destination port number and transmitted from said controlling apparatus.

17. A controlling apparatus of claim 10 is a controller

20   for controlling an image forming apparatus.

18. A controlling apparatus of claim 10 further comprising a control unit for an image forming apparatus, wherein said control unit causes said image forming apparatus to print out a warning content when computer virus infection

is detected.

19. A controlling method used in a controlling apparatus,
comprising the steps of:

monitoring frequency of communications from said
5   controlling apparatus to the outside; and

detecting computer virus infection at the controlling
apparatus by means of comparing the monitored frequency of
communications with a preset threshold value.